

STATE TRANSPORTATION BOARD OF GEORGIA
MINUTES

Georgia Department of Transportation
600 West Peachtree Street
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

December 13, 2012
9:00 a.m.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Johnny Floyd, Chairman
Sam Wellborn
Robert Brown
Emory McClinton
Brandon Beach
Rudy Bowen
Jim Cole
Emily Dunn
Don Grantham
Jeff Lewis
Dana Lemon
Bobby Parham (by phone)

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

DOT STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Keith Golden, Commissioner
Angela Whitworth, Treasurer
Karlene Barron, Director of
Communications
Kimberly King, Director of Equal
Employment Opportunity
Thomas Howell, Director of Construction

Todd Long, Deputy Commissioner
Russell McMurry, Division Director of
Engineering
Matt Cline, General Counsel
Tony Collins, Director Field Services
Joshua Waller, Director of Policy and
Government Affairs
Carol Comer, Director of Division of
Intermodal

Chairman Johnny Floyd called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. Jeff Lewis gave the invocation.

Chairman Floyd asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the November 2012 meetings. Sam Wellborn made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 2012 meetings, seconded by Don Grantham and unanimously approved.*

Bobby Hilliard, Program Control Administrator, presented the projects proposed for the January 2013 Letting for approval.* Hilliard stated that of the 15 projects advertised in the November Letting, 13 were awarded and two were deferred. The deferments were due to the local governments not having the appropriate funding for the projects.

Chairman Floyd asked for a motion to approve the projects proposed for the January 2013 Letting. Rudy Bowen made a motion to approve the projects proposed for the January 2013 Letting, seconded by Jay Shaw and unanimously approved.

Karlene Barron, Director of Communications, highlighted the Department's accomplishments for 2012.* The Department spent \$1.02 billion and completed 550 projects in fiscal year 2012. The Department has 4,375 employees. Even with the dwindling workforce, the Department has several notable accomplishments. This workforce has done 635 miles of interstate resurfacing at a cost of about \$139 million in FY 2012. The HERO unit has successfully managed 120,000 incidents in the last year. Department staff has removed 130,000 bags of litter from the roadways. That number totals 226,000 bags of trash. The 511 center has answered over 1 million calls assisting stranded motorists, clearing incidences and making roadways safer to travel.

Barron stated that the Department is working to reach over 9.8 million Georgians. The goal is to improve and make a positive impact on all modes of transportation. The Board approved the Complete Streets policy to provide a more holistic and complete way for the Department to look at how projects are designed for all users. In FY 2012, the Department invested \$17 million in short line rail. Other intermodal accomplishments include general aviation runway extension to 5,000 feet in four rural communities in the cost of \$6.1 million. The Department launched its Facebook and Twitter page this year with fans and followership growing. 3,008 press releases and advisories have been issued to keep the public informed and over 3,700 media inquiries and interviews have been answered this year. The Department is rated first nationally for on-budget delivery and second for on-time delivery for construction projects.

Dana Lemon asked how much was spent on consultant contracts. Russell McMurry stated the consultant charges for FY 2012 is around \$121 million.

There was discussion regarding the need for the Department to share how many of the projects that are opening to traffic are being celebrated. That will help with public trust and making sure the people in the local community are aware of exactly what the Department is doing.

Keith Golden, Commissioner, gave his monthly report, which included state fund collections; total employment figure for the month ending November 2012; and major projects opened to traffic.* Commissioner Golden stated that Thomas Howell will be moving back to District 3 to take over the District Engineer position on January 1st. That leaves a vacancy for the Director of Construction position. With Russell McMurry accepting the Chief Engineer position effective January 1st, the Director of Engineering is now vacant. Gerald Ross' retirement also left the Director Public Private Partnership position vacant. The Department is currently advertising for those three critical positions. The Department has received another award for the Diverging Diamond Interchange. The Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) presented the Department with an award for innovation during their annual meeting.

Commissioner Golden stated that he inquired with his counterparts from various states regarding their motor fuel tax collections at the request of Sam Wellborn and Brandon Beach. Most states' collections are relatively flat. However, there were a few interesting states such as North Dakota where their motor fuel tax collections are off the chart. Florida is not seeing a drop in revenue because they have multiple sources of revenue. Arkansas was excited that they had passed a statewide sales tax for transportation.

Commissioner Golden stated that Kimberly King would be the new director of Equal Employment Opportunity. King stated that she is very pleased to be a part of the Department.

Commissioner Golden stated that the last segment of the Fall Line Freeway will be advertised tomorrow, Friday, December 14, 2012.

Deputy Commissioner Todd Long stated that Commissioner Golden received an award as the Georgia section ITE Transportation Professional of the Year. The award is presented by a group of peers.

Sam Wellborn stated that David Millen is the best example he has seen in his 21 years of service on the Board on how DOT employees should properly and effectively deal with the citizens of Georgia.

A Resolution By The State Transportation Board

WHEREAS, David Millen is a native of Thomaston, Georgia, and graduated from Southern Tech with a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering Technology and started his career at the Georgia Department of Transportation in 1986; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Millen began his career as a Civil Engineering Technologist in the District Three Construction Macon Area Office; and

WHEREAS, he then transferred to the Office of Environmental/Location as a Survey Party Chief, and returned District Three as the first ever Survey Data Engineer; working his way through the ranks to become a Location Engineer, State Aide Coordinator and District Preconstruction Engineer; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Millen has most recently held the position of District Three District Engineer until his retirement in December 2012; and

WHEREAS, the expertise and crucial skill set Mr. Millen possesses was put on display as he proved to be instrumental in the development of the Department's Automated Survey Process by co-authoring the Survey Skills Development Program Manuals utilized to advance survey personnel; and

WHEREAS, David Millen has proven to be an integral part of the GDOT team and has provided outstanding faithful service to Georgia DOT and the people of Georgia for 30 years;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the State Transportation Board recognizes David Millen for his exemplary service and contributions to the Georgia Department of Transportation, appreciates his loyal and devoted service, and wishes him well in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting and a suitable copy be presented to David Millen in recognition of his commitment, dedication and selfless service.

Adopted this the 13th day of December, 2012.

Sam Wellborn made a motion to approve David Millen's retirement resolution, seconded by Jim Cole and unanimously approved.

Don Grantham gave a report from the Legislative Committee.* A motion was made by Jeff Lewis and seconded by Brandon Beach to favorably recommend the Legislative Agenda to the full Board for approval. Grantham made a motion for the full board to approve the Legislative Agenda, seconded by Emory McClinton and unanimously approved.

Brandon Beach gave a report from the Public Private Partnership Committee.* There was no action taken at this committee.

Chairman Floyd called on Jay Shaw for new business. Shaw stated each Board member was given a Performance Management Form (PMF) on Commissioner Golden. Each Board member is asked to complete and submit the form as soon as possible. The PMF is too be submitted to Chairman Floyd before the next Board meeting. Shaw stated that it is a good time for the Board to provide some feedback to the Commissioner on his job performance and job expectations. So next month, Board members are to be prepared to have a discussion with Commissioner Golden about the past year's accomplishments and expectations over the next year. As part of that discussion, the Board will also discuss and consider a performance based compensation increase up to 5 percent in the Commissioner's current salary.

There being no further business, Chairman Floyd adjourned the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

Approved:



Johnny Floyd, Chairman

Respectfully submitted:



Elizabeth Osmon, Executive Secretary

***Denotes documentation in file.**